VZCZCXRO2090 OO RUEHAG RUEHCHI RUEHCN RUEHDT RUEHHM RUEHROV DE RUEHRO #0662 1441524 ZNY CCCCC ZZH O 231524Z MAY 08 FM AMEMBASSY ROME TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0366 INFO RUEHZS/ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS PRIORITY RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE PRIORITY RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 1300 RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 0873 RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA PRIORITY 0187 RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 0813 RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY 0409 RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 0515 RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 1938 RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY 0182 RUEHGO/AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY 0096 RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0885

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/23/2018

TAGS: <u>EAID PGOV</u> <u>PHUM BM IT</u> SUBJECT: BURMA: ITALY PLANS LOW-LEVEL PARTICIPATION AT

DONORS CONFERENCE

REF: A. SECSTATE 53985

¶B. SECSTATE 55244

Classified By: A/DepPolCouns Gabriel Escobar, for reasons 1.4 (b) and (

(C) Poloff delivered ref A and B demarches to MFA Southeast Asia Desk Officer Samuela Isoppi May 22 and 23, respectively, emphasizing USG concerns about the upcoming donors conference in Rangoon and lack of humanitarian access to large parts of Burma affected by Cyclone Nargis. Isoppi said Italy shared our worries, and had decided on low-level participation at the conference. (MFA Southeast Asia Office Director Alberto Vecchi will represent Italy.) Isoppi said Italy was consulting with EU partners in Rangoon, who may make a joint statement at the end of the conference, depending on its outcome. She said Italy will not announce any additional assistance at the conference, although it does plan to contribute another 1-2 million euros to cyclone relief efforts, commitments that were planned before the conference was announced. SPOGLI